

cable and another portion of said rotary coupling coupled to said canister, whereby line fouling is avoided during winch operation.

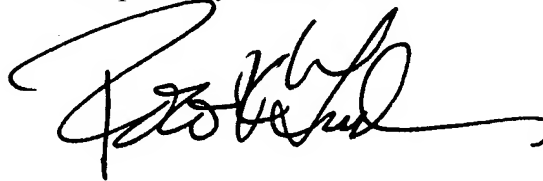
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Claim 13. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said cable includes one line carrying a high voltage and further including a high voltage slip ring assembly at said winch having one ring thereof coupled to the line carrying said high voltage and another ring fixed to said canister, whereby line fouling is avoided during winch operation.

REMARKS

The Examiner's action of October 14, 2003 is noted in which the claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph. Applicants have amended Claim 1 to positively recite a fiber optic towing cable and have amended Claim 3 to eliminate any confusion. Applicants hereby reinstate the canceled language of Claim 2 by inserting it into Claim 3. Claim 2 was canceled in error, as Applicants intended to cancel Claim 3 without prejudice.

Allowance of the claims and issuance of the case is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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